

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, OEXC, EFIS, ETRO, TBIO, CH, US

SUBJECT: EXCERPTS FROM EA/PRCM WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

US (CONFIDENTIAL)

1. THE WU SHU PERFORMANCE OPENED IN WASHINGTON JULY 10 WITH THE SECRETARY IN ATTENDANCE ALONG WITH HUANG CHEN AS HIS GUEST IN THE PRESIDENTIAL BOX. THE PRESIDENT IS SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE THE DELEGATION--AND THE PRCLO CHIEF-- ON FRIDAY. THE PUBLIC ASPECTS OF THE TOUR HAVE GONE QUITE WELL, BUT THERE HAS BEEN MUCH TENSION BEHIND THE SCENES BETWEEN THE CHINESE AND THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON US-CHINA RELATIONS, WHICH IS THE HOST ORGANIZATION. HEAD OF THE PRCLO POLITICAL SECTION TSIEN TA-YUNG INDICATED TO THE COMMITTEE'S ALEX ECKSTEIN JULY 10 THAT IF THE PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED WERE ONLY ACCIDENTAL AND NOT MANIFESTATIONS OF AN UNFRIENDLY ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THE COMMITTEE THEN EVERYONE SHOULD FORGIVE AND FORGET. TSIEN WENT ON, APPARENTLY, TO INDICATE THAT THE CHINESE WERE STILL CONCERNED ABOUT THE COMMITTEE'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS TAIWAN AND WOULD KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR FUTURE BEHAVIOR IN THIS REGARD.

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CHINESE SHRIMP REJECTED (LOU)

2. MURRAY BERGER OF SEABROOK FOODS, A LARGE IMPORTER OF CHINESE SEAFOOD, HAS INFORMED US THAT FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK RECENTLY REFUSED TO ALLOW A SHIPMENT OF 90,000 LBS. OF FROZEN SHRIMP FROM THE PRC (VALUED AT DOLS. 275,000) TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE OF DECOMPOSITION. BERGER SAYS THE SHRIMP HAD PASSED THE COMPANY'S OWN SAMPLE TESTS, WHICH HE SAYS WERE MORE THOROUGH, BUT THAT FDA REFUSED TO REVERSE ITS DECISION.

3. BERGER, WHO PURCHASED DOLS. 1.9 MILLION WORTH OF FROZEN SHRIMP AT THE SPRING 1974 CANTON FAIR, SAID THAT HIS COMPANY'S SEAFOOD FROM THE PRC HAS ALWAYS BEEN OF HIGH QUALITY. HE WAS CERTAIN THAT THE PRC WOULD BE VERY DISPLEASED BY THIS DEVELOPMENT.

4. BERGER STATED THAT HIS COMPANY IS INSURED AND WILL NOT LOSE MONEY BY THE REJECTION. HE SAID THAT IF THE CHINESE REFUSE TO TAKE THE SHRIMP BACK THE SHIPMENT COULD BE EASILY DISPOSED OF IN EUROPE OR JAPAN.
KISSINGER

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